Deepwater Horizon Incident, Gulf of Mexico

Region 6 REOC Update

Subject:	**Region 6 Update # 6** **Deepwater Horizon Incident, Gulf of Mexico**
Date:	May 3, 2010
To:	Incident Command
Thru:	Planning Section
From:	Situation Unit
Reporting Period:	May 2, 2010 1300 – May 3, 2010 1300

1. Background

Site Name:	Deepwater Horizon Incident	**FPN#:**	N10036
Mobilization Date:	4/27/2010	**Start Date:**	4/28/2010

2. Current Situation

2.1 Area Command Post

- One EPA Representative is at Incident Command (Houma) and another EPA Representative is at Area Command (Robert).
- EPA Rep is coordinating with Environmental, Safety, SCAT, and Operations Units to:
  - Obtain copies of requested plans;
  - Obtain environmental data plans and maps;
  - Obtain situation documents;
  - Coordinating the use of ASPECT for anticipated in-situ burn activities.
- Working with BP on establishing sub-sea dispersant testing and establishment of potential protocols.
- Coordinating Community Involvement support between Coast Guard and EPA.
- Acquired air monitoring data for worker health and safety collected off-shore, at the spill location in the Gulf.
- Coordinated sampling methodology and data dispersion plans between Unified Command and EPA.

2.2 Air Monitoring/Sampling

- Venice air monitoring for particulates and VOCs is ongoing (See attached map for locations):
    - Venice, LA - 29.25274 N, 89.35750 W - V02 - located at USCG (ongoing monitoring);
    - Boothville, LA - 29.31449 N, 89.38433 W - V03 - located at Welding Supply Co. (ongoing monitoring);
    - Fort Jackson, LA - 29.35714 N. 89.45605 W - V04 (ongoing monitoring).
- Chalmette operations established 3 air monitoring stations (VOCs and particulates):
    - Chalmette, LA – 29.94562, -89.9721;
    - Poydras, LA – 29.86609, -89.89108;
    - Hopedale, LA – 29.82209, -89.60862.
- Each air monitoring location has 4 pieces of air equipment:
    - DataRAM - monitoring particulate matter;
    - AreaRae - monitoring VOCs;
    - PQ200 - samples for PM10 (particulates);
    - SUMMA Canisters per location - sample for VOCs.
- There was 3 SUMMA samples continue to be collected per 24-hour period – One every 8-hours, 24 hours each day.
- There was 1 sample from PQ200 sample for gravimetric analysis is collected every 24 hours and samples are collected every day.
- Overnight air monitoring operations were hindered by the exhaustion of batteries during 24 hour use. Solution: extra battery packs obtained and the addition of marine batteries have also been obtained to extend battery life.
- Heavy rains in Chalmette and Venice required the rigging of tarps to protect the monitoring stations and continue air monitoring activities.
- All air monitoring/sampling stations are monitored throughout the day (24 hours) for immediate reporting of any elevated VOC or particulate levels. The maximum reading is reported to the Venice Command Post.
- Real-time air monitoring data from midnight to midnight each day is reviewed for field QA and uploaded into SCRIBE by 1200 each day and available to EPA Headquarters.
- There was 15 SUMMA canisters (for VOC) and 9 filter (for particulate) samples prepared for shipment today (5/3). To ensure proper temperature the filter, samples were held on ice and will be shipped today (5/3) with the samples from the last 2 days.
- Venice operations are relocating air sampling/monitoring location V04 due to increased traffic on road nearby causing dusty conditions.

- **EPA summary of air monitoring/sampling activities:**

Air Monitoring & Samples	DataRAM	AreaRae	SUMMA Canisters	PM10	TOTALS FOR 5/2
Venice	3 locs/24-hr	3 locs/24-hr	3	3	6
Chalmette	3 locs/24-hr	3 locs/24-hr	3	0	3
TOTAL TO DATE	6 locs/24-hr	6 locs/24-hr	34	12	

2.3 Water/Sediment Sampling

- EPA continues to conduct water and sediment sampling at locations provided by EPA Headquarters and selected through National Coastline Condition Assessment (NCCA) program. The NCCA sample locations are sampled every four years by state agencies with U.S. Coastlines. Sample parameters and locations were also selected in coordination with the EPA Region 6 Water Quality Division.

- Water and sediment sampling in the Chalmette area were initiated on 5/2. Three water and sediment samples were collected in the Chalmette area on 5/2. The sampling team did not observe oil or odor; one oiled brown pelican was observed.

- Chalmette water operations are prevented from water and sediment sampling for 5/3 due to inclement weather and by marine gas restrictions imposed by BP contracts with marine fuel providers. Unified command resolved this issue and Chalmette water operations will resume on 5/4.

- Two teams from Venice water operations collected water and sediment samples from four locations, but were prevented from further sampling by inclement weather. No oil was observed by the team closer to shore or by the team further into open water

- Two teams from Venice water operations are collecting sediment and water samples on 5/3.

- EPA summary of water/sediment activities

Water/Sediment Samples	Water	Sediment	TOTALS FOR 5/2
Venice	4	3	7
Chalmette	3	3	6
TOTAL TO DATE	16	15	

2.4 TAGA

- TAGA 1553 monitored from Venice, La, to Belle Chasse, LA. TAGA personnel are processing the data.

2.5 ASPECT

- ASPECT conducted an over flight along the marshes of Chandeleur Islands and showed no detections. Oil was observed in a number of photos and in InfraRed imagery. Flight operations were interrupted by the Presidential visit (due to air space restrictions) and inclement weather.

- ASPECT plane is continuing to conduct overflights at the direction of EPA Representative based on current conditions provided by field teams and BP operations. Specifically, overflights will occur during dispersant applications and in-situ burns.

2.7 Water Quality Protection Division Update

- The Region 6 Water Quality Protection Division provided a situation update including impact analysis, monitoring and assessment, and drinking water (see attached).

2.6 Summary of Air Quality Testing In Residential and Commercial Areas Along the Gulf Coast reported by CTEH (Center for Toxicology and Environmental Health) from 5/1

	# of Measurements	Avg Concentration	Maximum Concentration
VOCs	393	0.001	0.2
Hydrogen Sulfide	353	0	0
Sulfur Dioxide	24	0	0
Benzene	22	0	0
Total	792		

3. EPA Assets

3.1 Current Assets Deployed

- Activated in Dallas, TX
  - REOC is activated
  - SRICT activated
  - RRT activated

Deployed Personnel

Personnel	Dallas, TX	Venice, LA	Robert, LA	Houma, LA	New Orleans, LA	Chalmette, LA	Slidell, LA	TOTALS
EPA								
- OSC	6	1		2		1		10
- RSC	4		1	1				6
- PIO			3					3
- Other					1			1
START	4	14				4		22
ERT Contractor		1						1
TAGA Personnel							10	10
ASPECT Personnel							4	4
Other								
TOTALS	14	16	4	3	1	5	14	51

Deployed Equipment

Equipment	Dallas, TX	Venice, LA	Robert, LA	Houma, LA	New Orleans, LA	Chalmette, LA	Slidell, LA	TOTALS
Mobile Command Post		1						1
ASPECT							1	1
TAGA Bus							2	2
TOTALS		1					3	4

3.2 Future Assets Deployed

- Additional OSCs as needed
- START personnel

4. Daily Cost Estimates

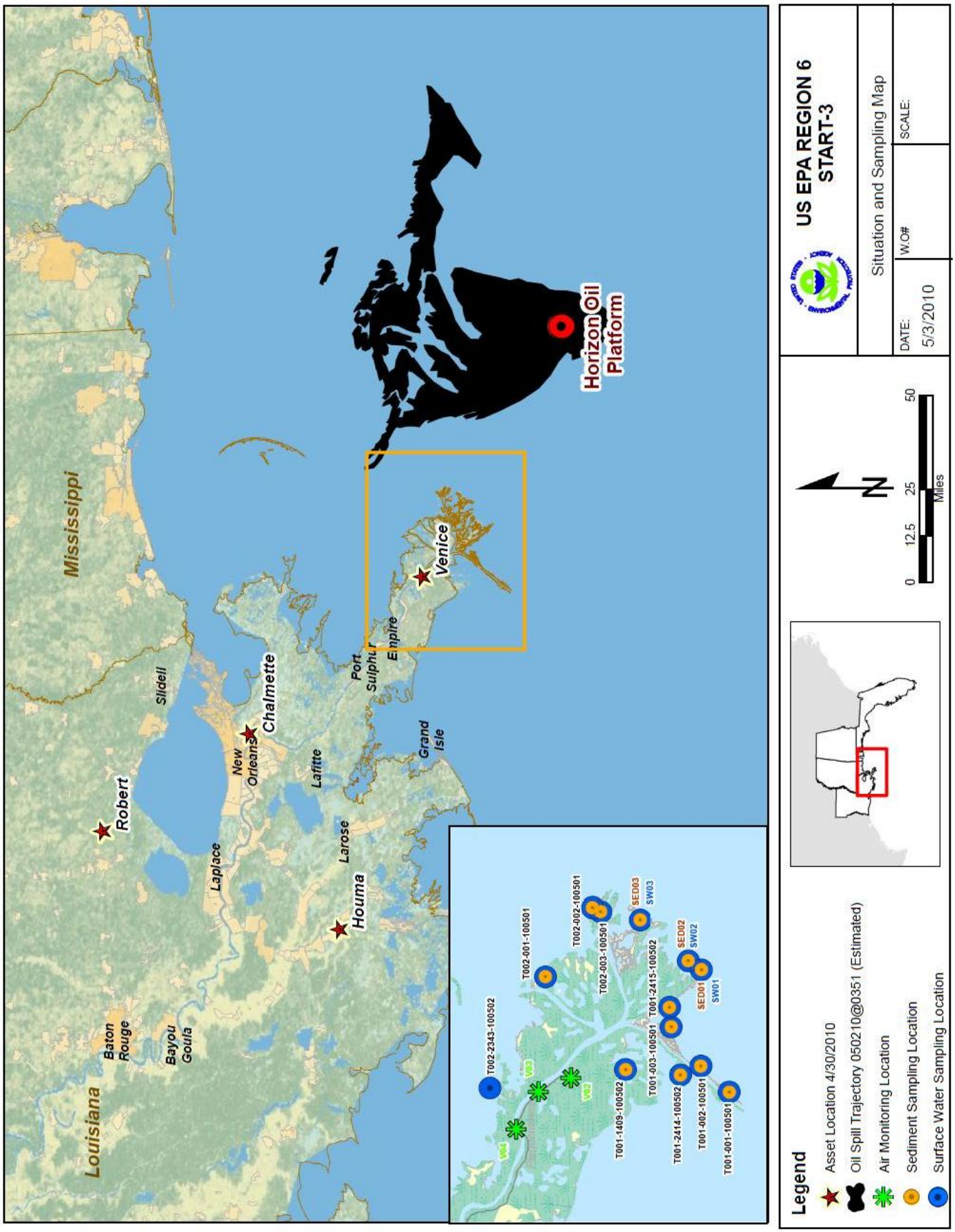
	EPA Personnel Est. Spent	EPA Travel Est. Spent	EPA Contracts Est. Spent	TOTAL Est. Spent	TOTAL Obligations	Balance	Est. Daily Burn Rate
EPA Funded	$53,200	$9,850	$411,000	$474,050	$655,754	$0	$110,200
TOTAL EPA Funded	$53,200	$9,850	$411,000	$474,050	$655,754	$0	$110,200

USCG PRFA FPN N10036	$0	$0	$	$0	$0	$0	$0
TOTAL OPA	$0	$0	$	$0	$0	$0	$0

Louisiana Total	$53,200	$9,850	$411,000	$474,050	$655,754	$0	$110,200

Figure 1 - Surface Water Sampling in Venice, LA

Monitoring/Sampling Locations

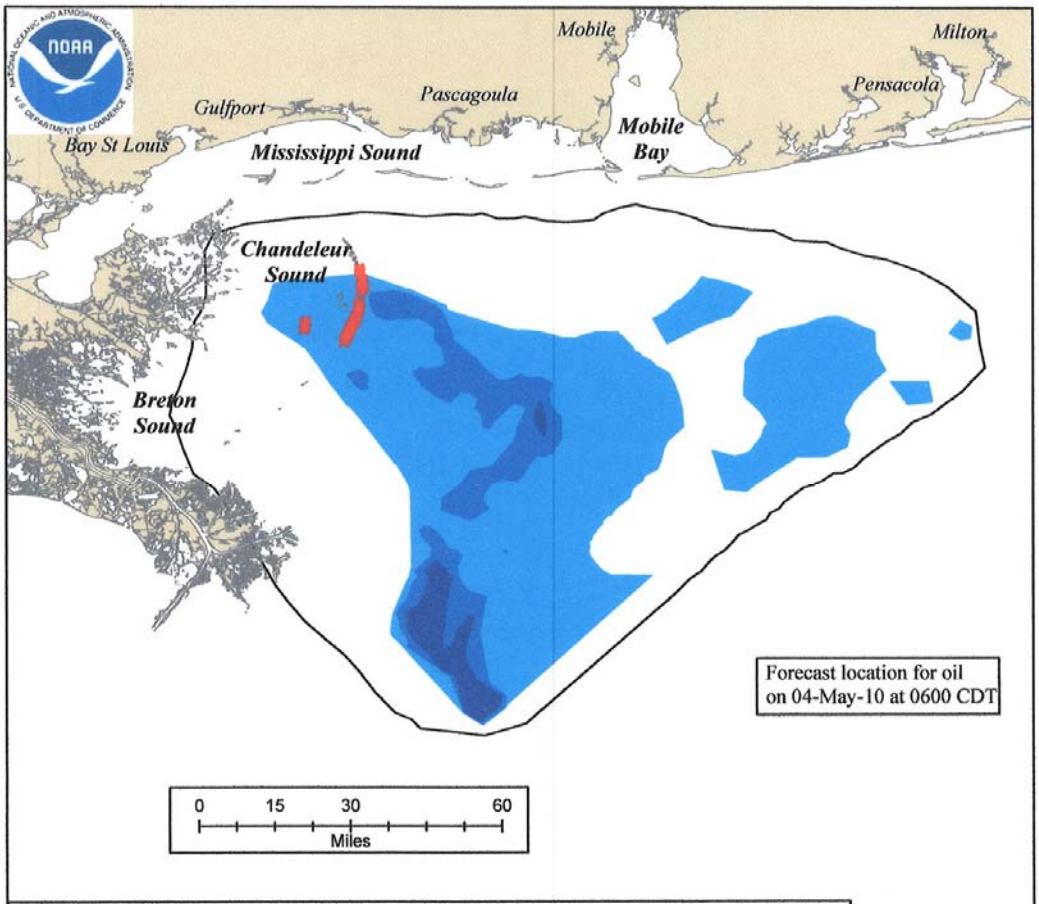


Trajectory Map

Mississippi Canyon 252

NOAA/NOS/OR&R
Estimate for: 0600 CDT, Tuesday 5/04/10
Date Prepared: 1600 CDT, Saturday 5/01/10

This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Saturday, May 1 AM. Currents were obtained from the NOAA Gulf of Mexico model, TexasA&M/TGLO, and NAVO models. The model was initialized from Friday morning and afternoon overflight data. The leading edge may contain tarballs that are not readily observable from the imagery (hence not included in the model initialization).



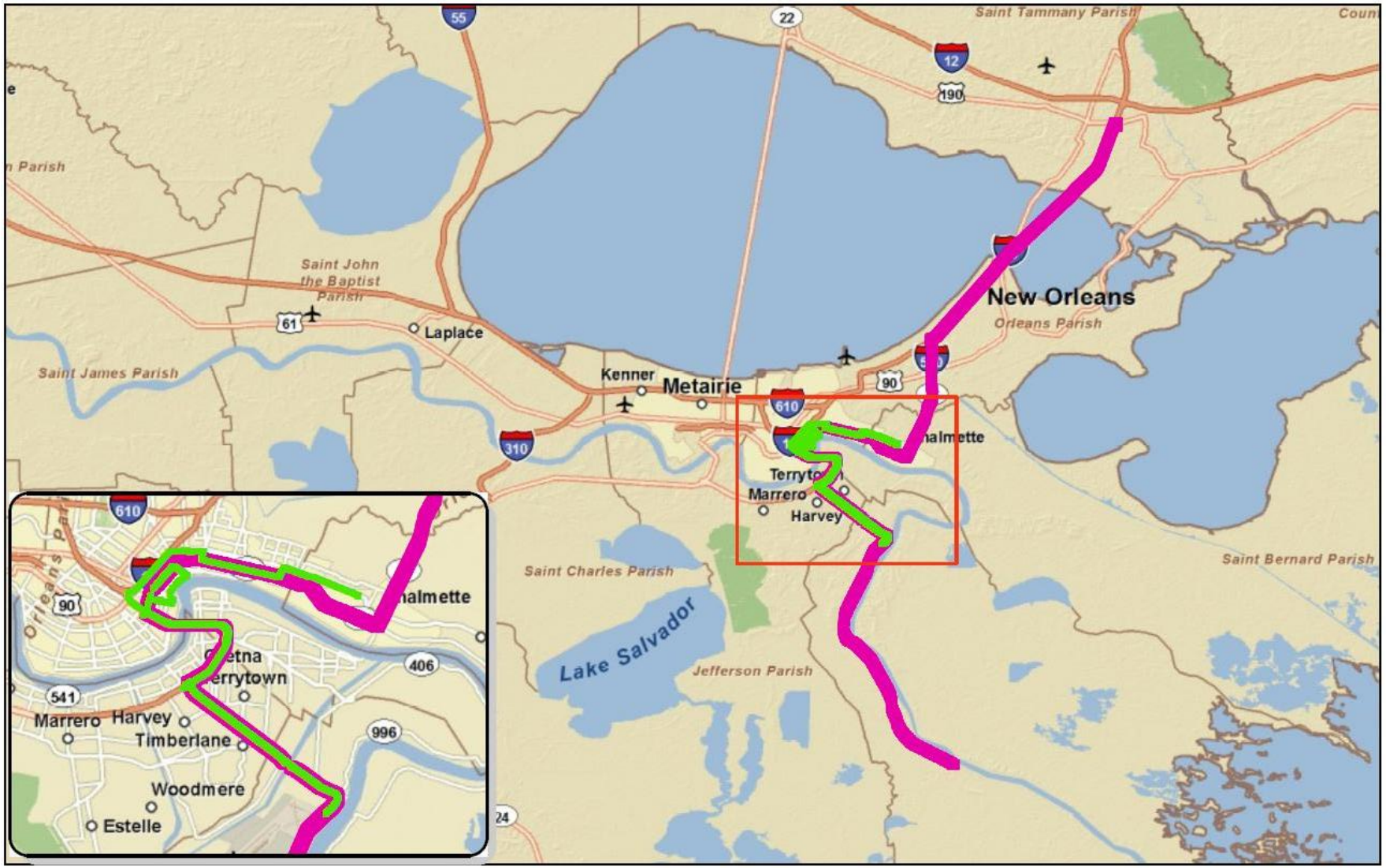
Strong SE winds of 20-25 kts are expected to continue through Saturday night. Beginning Sunday, winds are forecast to be more southerly and decrease to 15-20 kts by Sunday night. These winds will continue to bring oil towards the shoreline along the Mississippi River Delta, Breton Island, and the Chandelier Islands. This morning's strong winds and high seas were not ideal for overflight viewing. The model initialization will not reflect possible tarballs which could impact shoreline ahead of the prediction. Winds on Monday are expected to be from the SW becoming NW by Monday night.

Trajectory
- Uncertainty
- Light
- Medium
- Heavy
- Beached oil

this scale bar shows the meaning of the distribution terms at the current time

TAGA Path

May 3, 2010



1400CST